

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 012722

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 012722

TOSEC 282

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 189 ACTION SECSTATE INFO SAIGON, PEKING,  
TAIPEI, HONG KONG, JAN 20.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 189

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, CH, VS

SUBJ: PARACELS IN SECURITY COUNCIL

REF: USUN 188

FOLLOWING IS DRAFT TEXT OF LETTER FROM GVN PERMANENT  
OBSERVER TO SC PRESIDENT DISCUSSED REFTEL:

"ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM,  
I HAVE THE HONOUR TO CALL YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION AND THAT  
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON DANGEROUS  
ACTS OF WAR BEING PRESENTLY PERPETRATED BY THE PEOPLES  
REPUBLIC OF CHINA AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, ON  
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PAGE 02 STATE 012722

VIETNAMESE TERRITORY AND IN VIETNAMESE TERRITORIAL WATERS.

SUBSEQUENT TO ITS UNFOUNDED CLAIMS - AS PUBLICISED ON JAN. 11, 1974 IN PEKING - OF SOVEREIGNTY ON THE VIETNAMESE ARCHIPELAGO OF HOANG SA (ALSO KNOWN AS PARACELS, AND LOCATED BETWEEN MERIDIANS 111 AND 113 EAST, AND PARALLELS 15.45 AND 17.05 NORTH), THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA, ON JANUARY 17, 1974 AND THE FOLLOWING DAYS, SENT AN IMPORTANT NAVAL TASK-FORCE COMPOSED OF 11 VESSELS OF VARIOUS TONNAGES, INCLUDING TWO MISSILE-SHIPS OF THE KOMAR TYPE, TO THE HOANG SA AREA, APPROXIMATELY 170 NAUTICAL MILES OFF DA NANG.

HOSTILITIES STARTED ON JAN. 19, 1974 AT 0829 HOURS (LOCAL TIME) AFTER A CHINESE LANDING PARTY HAD OPENED FIRE ON VIETNAMESE TROOPS ON THE ISLAND OF QUANG HOA (ALSO KNOWN AS DUNCAN, 14.42 EAST-16.27 NORTH).

AT THE SAME TIME, COMMUNIST CHINESE VESSELS ENGAGED VIETNAMESE VESSELS STATIONED IN THE AREA, CAUSING HEAVY CASUALTIES AND MATERIAL DAMAGES.

ON JAN. 20, 1974, COMMUNIST CHINESE WARPLANES WHICH HAD BEEN OVERFLYING THE AREA ON PREVIOUS DAYS, JOINED THE ACTION AND BOMBARDED VIETNAMESE POSITIONS ON THE ISLANDS OF HOANGSA (PATTLE) CAMTUYEN (ROBERT) AND VINH LAC (MONEY).

AS OF THE WRITING OF THIS LETTER, CHINESE TROOPS HAVE LANDED ON ALL THE ISLANDS OF THE HOANGSA ARCHIPELAGO, AND THE CHINESE NAVAL TASK-FORCE SEEMED PREPARED TO HEAD FOR THE TRUONGSA (SPRATLY) ARCHIPELAGO.

THE ABOVE MENTIONED EVENTS SHOW THAT THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS ENGAGING IN AN AGGRESSION ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS, AGAINST AN INDEPENDENT AND SOVEREIGN STATE, WITH THE AIM OF OCCUPYING AND ANNEXING BY FORCE OF ARMS TERRITORIES WHICH ARE AN INDIVISIBLE PART OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. ON THIS POINT, I WISH TO REFER TO MY NOTE VERBALE OF JANUARY 16, 1974 IN WHICH I DETAILED UNDENIABLE EVIDENCE OF VIETNAMESE SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ISLAND PRESENTLY UNDER ATTACK BY THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF THE CHINA.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 012722

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, IN BRINGING THE ABOVE TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, ONCE AGAIN REAFFIRMS ITS FAITH IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES ENUNCIATED IN THE CHARTER OF THE ORGANISATION. IT VIEWS THE AGGRESSION BY THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA AS A SERIOUS BREACH OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, THREATENING THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF SMALL

NATIONS EVERYWHERE, PARTICULARLY IN ASIA.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 35, PARAGRAPH 2, OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM HEREBY RPT HEREBY SOLEMNLY DRAWS THE ATTENTION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE GRAVE SITUATION CREATED BY THE ACTION OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE HOANGSA ARCHIPELAGO AREA.

I THEREFORE HAVE THE HONOUR TO REQUEST YOU TO CONVENE AN IMMEDIATE MEETING TO CONSIDER THIS AGGRESSION BY THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM IN ORDER TO TAKE URGENT ACTIONS TO CORRECT THE SITUATION AND PUT AN END TO THE AGGRESSION.

FOR ITS PART, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ACCEPTS IN ADVANCE THE OBLIGATIONS OF PACIFIC SETTLEMENT PROVIDED IN THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

IN THE MEANTIME, I ALSO REQUEST YOU TO KINDLY HAVE THIS LETTER CIRCULATED AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO ALL STATES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND TO ALL STATES MAINTAINING PERMANENT OBSERVERS TO THE ORGANISATION.

ACCEPT...."  
SCALI

UNQUOTE RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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